

REMARKS

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Office Action dated September 29, 2004 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1-6, 8-14, 16-18, 21, 23, and 24 have been amended. Claims 1-24 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, the Examiner is thanked for the indicated allowability of claim 24 and the allowable subject matter of claims 3, 9-13, 15, 16, 19, 22, and 23.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 4-8, 14, 17, 18, 20, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,207,074 to *Cox et al.* (hereinafter “*Cox*”). The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, “the reference must teach every element of the claim.” The Applicants respectfully submit that *Cox* does not teach each and every element recited in claim 1. To further illustrate, claim 1, as amended, recites an indoor unit for an air conditioner comprising, among other features, a first drain pan and a second drain pan. *Cox* does not disclose these features. While *Cox* discloses one drain pan 80, *Cox* does not disclose a second drain pan, as claimed. Thus, *Cox* cannot anticipate claim 1. As such, the Applicants respectfully submit that *Cox* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, and request that the rejection be withdrawn. Likewise, claims 2 and 4, which depend from claim 1, are also patentable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 5 is also allowable over *Cox*. In particular, claim 5 recites an indoor unit for an air conditioner comprising, among other features, “an inclined surface formed at a bottom surface of the drain pan.” *Cox* does not disclose this feature. Even though *Cox* discloses the

drain pan 80, nowhere does *Cox* disclose that the drain pan 80 has an inclined surface formed at a bottom surface as required by claim 5. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that *Cox* does not disclose each and every element recited in claim 5. Claim 5 is therefore allowable over *Cox*. Claims 6-8, 14, and 17, which depend from claim 5, are also allowable for at least these reasons.

Furthermore, claim 18 is allowable over *Cox* in that claim 18 recites an indoor unit for an air conditioner which includes “a lower drain pan for collecting and draining condensed water generated in the indoor heat exchanger at a lower side of the indoor heat exchanger and a side drain pan for collecting and draining condensed water generated in the indoor heat exchanger at a side portion of the indoor heat exchanger.” *Cox* does not disclose an air conditioner which includes a lower drain pan at a lower side of a heat exchanger and a side drain pan at a side portion of the indoor heat exchanger. *Cox* only discloses that the drain pan 80 is disposed below individual coil slabs 32, as may be seen in the Figures. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that *Cox* does not disclose each and every element recited in claim 18 and claim 18 is therefore allowable over *Cox*. Claims 20 and 21, which depend from claim 18, are also patentable over *Cox* for at least the same reasons.

The Applicants believe the application is in a condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the

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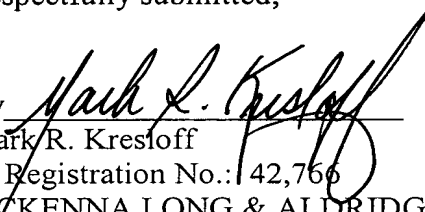
Docket No.: 7981.013.00-US

filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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